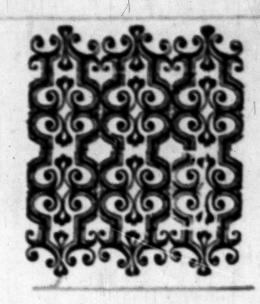
By the Queene.







A Proclamation for the suppressing of seditious Bookes and Libelles,



De Queenes most excellent Paiestie being given to boderstand that divers falle, standerous, wicked, seditious and trayterous bookes and libelles, are covertly and in secret maner dispersed through this Realme, by divers seditious and trayterous persons, tending not onely to the defacing of true Religion now established within these her highnesse dominions, but also most traiterously siniuriously to sander the present most happic squiet government, with crueltic and extraordinarie maner of proceedings in the due execution of instice, and withall, most detestably and saunderously to reproche her most renoumed and deare father, the dishonour or note whereof, doth and cannot but touch her selfe, as neere as her Highnesse owne life,

and to thee taketh it : In some of which their most thamefull, infamous, and detestable libelles, they goe about to reproche, dishonour and touch with abominable lyes (as is well knowne to the whole Realme) not onely many of her most trustie and faithfull Counsellers, but also her Dighnesse Judges and ministers of the lawe, greatly touching thereby her Dighnelle Celfe in her Regall and kingly office, as making choyle of men of want both of iuftice, care, and other lufficiencie to ferue her Dighnelle and the common weale. And further, in the land bookes and libelles, they ble all the meanes, driftes, and falle perswalions they can devise or imagine, to advaunce such pretended titles, as confequently must be most daungerous and presudiciall to the safetic of her Dighnesse person and state, (which the Lorde long preferue.) Der higneste foresceing, that the authors and dispersers of the saide bookes and libelles, doe by these wicked and indirect meanes, feeke most trayterously to render and make both her highnesse, and her most gratious gouernement, odious and hatefull both abroade and at home: And having of late founde by plaine and manifest meanes and proofes, that their purpose and chiefe intent, to bring in obloquie a hatred, her Maielties principall Aoble men, Counsellers, Judges and ministers of Justice, is (as much as in them lieth) to flaunder, impeach, and deface her Maichtes most happie gouernement, and thereupon to breede some troubles within this Realme, whereby their bunatural, deuillich, and trayterous practiles both against her Maiestie their naturall Soueraigne, and the Realme their owne native countrey, may take their desired effect: hath therefore thought meete, that some order should be prelently taken, for the preventing a suppressing of such mischiefes, as otherwise through ignorance of the trueth might ensue thereby. And therefoze her Dighneffe doeth by this her Maiesties proclamation straightly charge and commaund, that all such persons to whose handes any of the saide bookes or libelles, either hath come, or shall hereafter at any time come, do presently with all convenient speede, without the wing the same to any person, deliver it to some one of her Dighnelle prince Counsel, if any such be within twentie miles. And if it be aboue that distance of miles from the Court, then to the Cuitos Rotulorum, or to his Deputie of the same Shire, where the partie shall be, that hath or that have any such booke or libel, and the same Custos Rotulorum or his Deputie, to whose handes any such booke of libel hall come, hall presently & safely send the same to the Lordes of her Maiesties most honourable prince Couns fell. And least that any euill disposed and affected person should maliciously and buduetifully make any wrong or sisnifter construction of this her Maiesties meaning towards such as mooued with that duetie and reverence that aps pertaineth, shall make delivery of any the layd Bookes and libelles, her Dighnelle pleasure is, and so doeth hereby lig-

seer all ber louing Subjectes, that they not any of them hall be molefted, impeached, or troubled for the having or reining of any of the layd Bookes or libels, to as they doe deliner the fame according to the tencar a true meaning debignielent Proclamation, and to as it do appeare that they have bene no letters foorth, disperfers, mainteiners anthors of any of the layde bookes or libelles. Ind in case any of the layde parties that eyther hath, or at any time bereafter that have any of the land bookes or libelles, that not make belivery thereof in fort as is before specified: Then bet pighnelle further pleasure and expecte commaundement is, that the partie or parties to offending, shall be com= erred to prison, there to remaine without baile or mayneprise, butill order shalbe taken by the Lordes of her 98a: refres printe Counfel, for the proceeding against such offenders for such their offence, according to the nature and quawie of the layb offence. Ind her Maichies further pleasure is, that all Marchantes, masters of Shippes, officers worts, or any other that shalbe bringer into this Realme of any the saybe feditions bookes or libelles, or a disperser of the fame, or shall bereafter be any way printe to the making, bringing in, or dispersing of them, or any of them, and hall not immediatly discouer such offender or offenders to the next Justice of the peace where such offence shall be committed, whereby the offenders may be apprehended, and brought to be forthcomming to receive fuch punits. ment as his layd offence that deferue: That then fuch perfon or perfond to offending, thatbe committed to prilon, there to remayne without bayle or maineprife as aforelayd, butill he be proceeded on according to Justice. And for the bets trecretation of the land Proclamation, her Maieftie is pleased, that all such persons as shall detect any of the land effenders, whereby they may be fortheomming to receive condigne punishment according to their demerites, shall have the mortie of luch forfaitures and penalties, as thalbe layde or inflicted boon fuch offenders to by them detected, for fuch their offences. And in case any Maioz, Justice of peace, or other publique and inferiour officer shall be found remiffe in the due execution of the layd parciamation, that then the layd partie or parties to offending, thall also be produced before the land Lordes, to receive punishment for that contempt and remissenes bled in that behalfe, in such but as that appertagne to the nature and qualitie of the came offence. Given at her Maielties Honour of Hampton murt, the twelfth day of Dctober, in the fire and twenticth peere of her Maieflies reigne.

God saue the Queene.

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Maiestie.